

Rideshare & Taxi *Safety*

What the standard advice leaves out:

*Safety isn't something you need permission for.
It isn't a group project.
It's your first obligation to yourself.*

The *basics*.

Know them, and actually do them. None of this is new. Most of us still skip steps when we're tired, in a hurry, or distracted.



When the car pulls up, let the driver say your name first. Match the plate and vehicle to what's in the app before you open the door.



Sit in the back seat. Wear your seatbelt. Share your ride through the app before you pull away.



Keep personal information to yourself.

*If something feels off before you even get in — don't get in.
Don't sacrifice your safety because it feels awkward.*

Going *beyond* the basics



Give the interior a quick visual sweep before you commit. Does anything look strange? Feel off? Two seconds. Make it a habit.



Don't get lost in your phone. It's tempting to scroll or zone out, especially when the destination is familiar or this is something you do every day. Stay alert anyway. Knowing where you are, roughly how long you've been moving, and whether the route looks right keeps you in control of the situation.



Share your location actively. The app's share feature is a start. Better yet, share with a friend. Set up a buddy-system so they expect it.



Know where the door handle is. Not paranoia. Two seconds.



If something shifts mid-ride, ask minimal questions. Directive statements put you in control. "Stop right now" is not a request.

The part we *don't* talk about.

If something feels off — before you get in, or once you're already moving — trust it. You don't need to explain it. You don't need to prove it. Getting in when something feels wrong, or staying in when it stops feeling right, is a choice you're making against your own best interest. Maybe you don't want to seem difficult or hurt a stranger's feelings. These aren't reasons to put yourself at risk.

Your safety isn't something you need permission for.
It isn't a group project. It's your first obligation to yourself. Put it into action.

Risk doesn't always look like the danger we've been taught to watch for. Sometimes we just know something's wrong. Learning to trust that and act on it is where we start.

Let's talk.

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